

REBUTTAL TO ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF MEASURE H

The proponents of Measure H acknowledge that the contamination in the water must be cleaned up by the City. They acknowledge that the contamination is hazardous and that when it reaches Lodi's supply wells it will be harmful. However, they assert that the "City" should pay for it.

But just who is the City? The City is all of us. The City is seniors at Hutchins Street Square. The City is children at the library and playing in parks. The City is people who need police and fire services. The City is every child and adult who needs safe clean drinking water to sustain life.

We are the City and future generations are counting on us. The question is how will we pay for the cleanup . . . by reducing our city services, or acknowledging the need for clean water and its associated costs. State Water Board Chairman Robert Schneider said, "This is a legacy issue for Lodi. Lodi will be able to say that it takes care of the environment."

The City Council, who the public elected, has been extremely thorough and careful to ensure that all legal requirements associated with a water rate increase have been met. Strong public opinion was expressed at public hearings that the City should stop spending money on litigation, stop pointing fingers and making excuses, and clean up Lodi's water now!

Vote to keep Lodi's services and vote to clean up Lodi's water. Vote NO on Measure H, the Water Rate Reduction Initiative.

Submitted by:

/s/ Larry D. Hansen, Council Member
/s/ Richard J. Jones, CEO, non-profit
/s/ William Meehleis, Business Owner
/s/ Sara Heberle, Retired Senior Citizen